This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of accessing a group in a clustered computer system, wherein the clustered computer system includes a plurality of nodes, and wherein the group includes a plurality of members resident respectively on the plurality of nodes, the method comprising:

(a) receiving an access request on a first node in the plurality of nodes, wherein the access request identifies a cluster-private group name associated with the group; and

(b) processing the access request on the first node to initiate a group operation on at least a subset of the plurality of nodes that map to the cluster-private group name.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating the access request with a user job resident on the first node.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising forwarding the access request to a clustering infrastructure resident in the first node via a call from the user job.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

(a) generating the access request with a user job resident on a second node in the plurality of nodes; and

(b) processing the access request with a proxy job resident on the second node by communicating the access request to the first node.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the proxy job is a member of a cluster control group, the method further comprising:

(a) forwarding the access request from the user job to the proxy job; and

(b) forwarding the access request from the proxy job to a clustering infrastructure resident in the second node via a call from the proxy job.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising retrieving the cluster-private group name with a user job by accessing a cluster-private data structure.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the cluster-private data structure is resident on the same node as the user job.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the cluster-private data structure is accessible only from the node upon which the cluster-private data structure is resident.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the cluster-private data structure is accessible only by jobs that are resident on the node upon which the cluster-private data structure is resident.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation comprises distributing messages to a plurality of group members resident on the nodes that map to the cluster-private group name.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein initiating the group operation further comprises accessing a group address data structure to retrieve a plurality of network addresses associated with the cluster-private group name, wherein distributing messages to the plurality of group members includes sending a message to each of the plurality of network addresses.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation is performed by a clustering infrastructure resident on the first node.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein initiating the group operation includes retrieving with the clustering infrastructure a plurality of addresses that are

mapped to the cluster-private group name in a data structure that is local to the clustering infrastructure.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the group operation includes locally resolving on the first node a mapping between the cluster-private group name and a plurality of addresses associated with at least the subset of the plurality of nodes.

15. – 27. (Canceled)